

SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 41/Number 9 February 2009



Administration's Message

Dear Residents:

During the month of February, our country celebrates the birthdays of two of our Nation's presidents – Abraham Lincoln on February 12th and George Washington on February 22nd.

This entire year, the country, and Illinois in particular, are celebrating the 200th anniversary of President Lincoln's birthday with ongoing events. Our 16th President was born in Hardin County, Kentucky in 1809 and his family moved to Indiana in 1816. Then in 1830, Lincoln's family moved to Illinois. In 1832, at the age of 23, Lincoln began his political career with an unsuccessful run for the Illinois General Assembly – and the rest is history! The following two web-sites provide information on Illinois' year long celebration of President Lincoln's historic life:

<http://www.lincoln200.net/events/>

<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/Lincoln/bicentennial.asp>

Despite the sad and shameful events concerning the State's last two governors, Illinois has produced many high-quality statesmen and national leaders and Illinoisans can still take great pride in being the "Land of Lincoln"!

On behalf of Mayor Andrews and the Village Board of Trustees, I want to take this opportunity to wish a "Happy Birthday" to the Indian Head Park Woman's Club which celebrated its 23rd birthday on February 17th.

A very special thank you to Ed Santen and our Public Works Department for keeping our streets and sidewalks cleared of snow and ice under very difficult circumstances this snow season. Road salt has been hard to come by (and very, very expensive) and Ed and his crew have done a great job! We hope Spring will be here soon.

If you are planning on doing any remodeling or construction work when the weather breaks, it not too early to apply for a building permit that may be required prior to starting any project. Please check the Village's website or call the Administration offices for information.

We were saddened by the news of the death of long-time IHP resident Martin J. Halac, husband of retired IHP employee Lenore Halac. Mr. Halac passed away on February 2nd. And also, Marie Elza, the mother of IHP officer John Elza

passed away recently. We extend our sympathies and condolences to the Halac and Elza families.

Thinking that it would be appropriate to end this message with a quote from Abraham Lincoln, I went on the Web. To my amazement I discovered that the words my Mother often used - "And this too shall pass" - to encourage and/or sympathize with me and my seven siblings (and I have used with my daughters) are actually from the following September 30, 1859, Lincoln quote:

"It is said an Eastern monarch once charged his wise men to invent him a sentence to be ever in view, and which should be true and appropriate in all times and situations. They presented him the words: 'And this, too, shall pass away.' How much it expresses! How chastening in the hour of pride! How consoling in the depths of affliction!"

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as one of your Village Trustees.

— Trustee Carol A. Coleman

Aging Well News....



The community outreach work-group of Aging Well has initiated two new projects to spark an increase in the dissemination of information to Lyons Township residents. Aging Well, a community partnership made up of older adults, local governments and business professionals, is an integral part of the of the national Community Partnerships for Older Adults. Aging well is funded locally by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois, the Chicago Community Trust, Community Memorial Foundation and the Township of Lyons. To join Aging Well groups, please contact Stephanie Bailey at (708) 354-1323, extension 19, or visit the following Website: www.agingwellpartnership.org

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LAGRANGE, IL 60525
TEL/FAX (708) 784-2436

WWW.NMWATKINSLAW.COM

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees 7:30 p.m.:

Thursday, March 12, 2009

Planning and Zoning Commission 7:30 p.m.:

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Fire/Police Commission 7:00 p.m.:

March 5, 2009

E-911 Board 6:30 p.m.:

March 19, 2009

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at
201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

Smoke Signals

Newsletter Coordinator, Kathy Leach
(708) 246-7099, extension 101
kleach@indianheadpark-il.gov

Volume 41, Number 9

Circulation 2000

Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

Deadline date for the next issue is March 20, 2009.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

TRADING POST

Alterations . . . Experienced with silks, woolsens, ultrasuede and leathers. Hems, zippers, buttons replaced, and bedspread repairs. Heirloom christening gowns, etc. Call (708) 246-6635.

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Frank DeLaurentis, owner

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NOTE: Not valid with any other offers.

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525

(708) 246-3080

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and

Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor:

Richard S. Andrews

Trustees:

Deborah A. Anselmo Carol Coleman
Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnauffer
Anne Bermier Matthew P. Walsh II

Village Clerk:

Joseph V. Consolo

Chief of Police/ Administrator:

Frank Alonzo, Jr.

Police Dept.

Non-Emergency 246-4534

Emergency 9-1-1

Fire Dept.

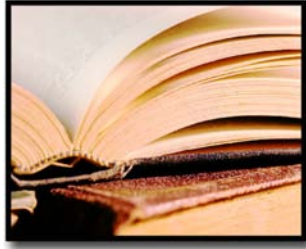
Non-Emergency 352-9229

Emergency 9-1-1

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in *Smoke Signals* are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

Heritage Center Library

If you have a chance, come and see the Heritage Center Library. Check out the recent renovations outside and the good books inside. The Library is staffed by very friendly and knowledgeable volunteers from IHP who would love to help you find something interesting to read. The Library is free to IHP residents. If you are into fitness and frequent the health club or envy those who do, stop by the Heritage Center Library and exercise your mind with a good book.



The Library is open Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sundays from Noon to 3:00 p.m. Book donations are accepted at the Village Hall! Please do not leave them outside at the Heritage Center. Finally, if you care to spend some time staffing the Library as one of our docents, we desperately can use your help. Call Jane Kuhn at 246-0293 to volunteer! See you there!!

Mayor Richard S. Andrews

Advertisements

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Advertisements

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General Manager
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JOHN C. SKREKO, DDS, FAGD, FADI

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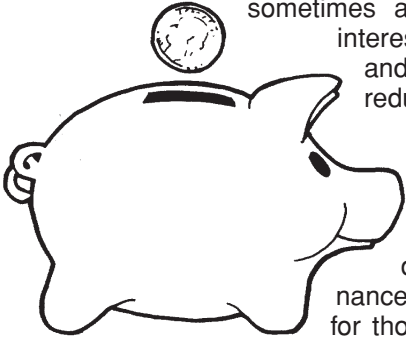
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Animal Proofing Available**

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Money Saving Tips in a Slow Economy.....

Convert to a gas water heater. They are more energy efficient and will save money in the long run.

Request a reduction in the interest rate on your credit cards. As with home equity loans, credit card companies sometimes are willing to reduce the interest rates if you contact them and ask for the rate to be reduced.



Refinance your mortgage. If you can reduce your interest rate by one percent or more, it is often beneficial to refinance. This is particularly true for those with high rates due to less than stellar credit scores. If

your score has improved, you may qualify for a better rate.

Take advantage of 0% credit card offers. You can save thousands of dollars using 0% balance transfer credit cards. Again, as long as the cards won't cause you to spend more, they can offer substantial savings.

Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs. These bulbs use 75% less energy and last 10 times longer.

Pay your life insurance annually. Insurance companies charge more if you pay monthly, quarterly or semi-annually.

Pay car insurance semi-annually. It costs more to pay quarterly.

Get DVD's from Red Box. Movie rentals at Red Box are \$1.00 per night (there is a new Red Box at Walgreens at 6700 Joliet Road).

Increase insurance deductibles. Claims are generally not filed for losses up the deductible and might not be worth an increase in premiums for a small claim. Increasing the deductible will decrease the premiums.

Shut vents in unused rooms. This will help to reduce your heating and cooling bills.

Get Healthy. Your health will directly impact the cost of life insurance, and in some cases, can reduce the cost of your health insurance.

Take your lunch to work one or more days a week. This will save money in the long run.

Use flexible spending accounts. FSA's allow you to pay certain medical, dental and child care expenses using pre-tax dollars.

Keep tires properly inflated. It keeps you safe and costs less on gas.

Buy generic over-the-counter medicines. They are the same as their branded counterparts and cost less.

Buy on-line when it saves you money. Amazon sells more than just books and offers great deals on many items.

Check the insulation in your home. Extra insulation can easily pay for itself in one or two years.

Buy energy efficient appliances. Look for energy star symbols on appliances and consider the annual energy cost before buying appliances. More efficient appliances cost more, but you make up the extra cost and then some over the life of the product.

Contractor's Licensing Requirements and Permits

Last year, the Village of Indian Head Park Board approved an ordinance requiring contractor's conducting work in the Village of Indian Head Park to obtain a contractor's business license to perform work in our community. Please keep in mind that in addition to a contractor's business license, a building permit may also be required for various scopes of construction projects including but not limited to: decks, additions or alterations to existing residential structures, hot tubs, in-ground swimming pools, interior/exterior remodeling projects, RPZ sprinkler devices, demolitions, fireplace installations, changes in grade, electric service or plumbing upgrades or changes, installation of new signage and various other miscellaneous improvements. A "Guide to Obtaining a Building Permit" may be downloaded from the Village's Website under the Building Department category at www.indianheadpark-il.gov. The guide lists the requirements for submitting plans to the Village for review and approval if a building permit is required for various projects. If you have any questions pertaining to the Building permit process, please contact Kathy Leach, at (708) 246-7099, extension 101. Before entering into a contract for services or allowing someone into your home, request a valid contractor's business licensing registration form issued by the Village.

Advertisement

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TEEPEE TOPICS

Congratulations to the following students from Indian Head Park on their academic achievements!:

Narazeth Academy recently announced the list of students from Indian Head Park who were named to the honor roll: Anthony Bartucci, Christina Marino, Nora O'Connell, Joseph Pellegrino, Colleen McCollom, Clare Bohne, Andrew Bartucci and Nicole Yu. Lisa Brandush earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Iowa. Matthew LaMantia earned a bachelor's degree at Kansas University. Katherine Bailey was named to the honor roll at Fenwick High School. Jonathan Andrews was named to the dean's list at Lewis University for the fall 2008 semester.

Babs Smith of Acacia proudly announced that her granddaughter, Mary Kate Smith, received a four-year academic and softball scholarship to Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Mary Kate has completed her first semester.

We welcome a new business to the Indian Head Park Plaza. True Source Cabinets, located at 6925 Joliet Road, offers a full line of kitchen, bath and office cabinets – stop by the showroom or visit their Website at www.truesourcecabinets.com for monthly specials and further details about True Source Cabinets. Sheri Sauer would be pleased to help you with any questions you might have about a proposed cabinet remodeling project.

Our condolences to the families and friends of the following who recently passed away: Martin J. Halac, a long

time resident of Indian Head Park, who was a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran and beloved husband of Lenore Halac who worked for the Village of Indian Head Park for many years. Marty was a retired accountant and he worked for Rodman & Renshaw, Inc., a brokerage firm, for ten years. **Elsa Vleck**, a long time resident of Indian Head Park, age 95. Elsa worked for many years as an administrative supervisor for Western Electric before retiring, was a world traveler and an avid bridge player. **Daria "Dee" Hud**, a long time resident, who was a volunteer at St. John of the Cross annual garage sale and she enjoyed attending estate sales. **Charles Roberts**, age 93, a 30-year resident of Indian Head Park. Charles retired from the American National Bank of Chicago after a 41-year career and he enjoyed traveling. **Noel Johnson**, age 88, a former educator began her full-time law practice at age 70 as a defense attorney. Noel was a former chairwoman of the business department at Daley College in Chicago and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago, where in 1944 she was one of just six women to receive a law degree. **Grace Taylor**, a long time resident of Indian Head Park, who was active in the community during the early development years of the Village in the 1950's and 1960's. During that time, Grace helped to assemble the Village newsletter "**Smoke Signals**" which was distributed in the neighborhood.

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